

Hail! Patriot, statesman, hero,
sage;
Hail! Freedom's friend! Hail
Gallias's son!
Whose laurels greener grow in
age,
Plucked by the side of
Washington.

Hail! Champion, in a holy
cause!
When hostile bands our shores
beset,
Whose valor blade the oppres-
sor pause.
Hail! Holy warrior, Lafayette.

Tribute from a young
resident of Leesburg



"Little Gems"- Lafayette Edition

By Sarah Markel

For this edition of "Little Gems" I was inspired by the clerk's entry "Lafayette to Visit August 1825" found in Order Book 7 page 65.

"It being represented to the Court that arrangements have been made by the people of this County, for the purpose of showing respect to the distinguished friend of our Country General Lafayette and that it is desirable that the publick lott and Courthouse should be used for his and the people's accommodation on Tuesday next, it is therefore ordered that the said Courthouse and publick lott shall be placed under the control of the committee of arrangement for the aforesaid object and shall in all respects be made subject to the arrangement of said committee- Provided that all damages done during the occupation of the Court-house and yard, by said committee shall be repaired by said committee."

The court record as shown above does not provide much detail on the event, but it gives a starting point to our re-search. According to *Exploring Leesburg-A Guide to History and Architecture*, in 1825 "The greatest social event in the history of Leesburg" took place. This social event was the arrival of General Lafayette accompanied to Leesburg by two of his longtime friends, President John Quincy Adams and former president James Monroe.

In *From Frontier to Suburbia*, author Charles Poland Jr., cites various sources that give a vivid description of the festivities surrounding the day's events. According to Poland, Lafayette's visit was made possible by former President Monroe as he was hosting General Lafayette and President Adams for a three day visit at his house Oak Hill, just south of Leesburg. When word of this visit reached town, the residents of Leesburg sent the gentleman a formal invitation to visit the town. General Lafayette accepted and the town set to work preparing for the festivities. Poland goes on to describe the town as General Lafayette and other guests arrived from Oak Hill. An estimated 10,000 people, half of Loudoun's population, turned out for the day's events. The day started with an introduction of the town's committee and a review of the county's militia by General Lafayette. The procession then moved to Colonel Osborne's hotel where the guests were introduced to the Leesburg Town Mayor and Town Council Members. After some light refreshments the guest toured the town and then proceeded to the court house. Once at the court house, local children recited poems and Ludwell Lee gave a "Patriotic speech." The ceremonies ended around 4 p.m. and under great tents a banquet was provided for Lafayette, Monroe, President Adams, and 35 or so town officials. After many toasts and stories, it is said that General Lafayette retired for the night at Ludwell Lee's Belmont Plantation, located in current day Ashburn, and then went to Washington, D.C. the following day.

Looking out the window of the Court House, one cannot help but picture the streets lined with people and General Lafayette looking out over the crowd addressing our fair town of Leesburg. I look forward to seeing what story the next "Little Gem" will bring.



Tell us about Your "Little Gems" of Loudoun County History. Go to www.loudoun.gov/Clerk/LittleGems and complete the "Little Gems" Form. Future editions of our newsletter will highlight a "Little Gem" submitted by our readers. So get researching, the next spotlight may be your discovery!

The Ambrotypist: Occupations Found in the Birth Registers

By Alyssa Fisher

Recent additions to the online indexes found on the Historic Records webpage include updated, and more in depth, versions of the Birth Registers from 1853-1859 and 1864-1866. These registers not only provide vital records, but also include genealogical information about each child and their family. An interesting column included in the registers is the occupation of the father. While farmers and laborers make up the largest percentage of occupations, one particular listing stands out: an Ambrotypist.

On August 21, 1856 Isabella Morgan gave birth to a daughter named Louisa. Louisa’s father, Charles W. Morgan, is listed as an Ambrotypist in Leesburg. An ambrotype is an early form of photography where the negative of an image is created on a glass plate. The glass plate is then placed in front of a black background to create a positive image. Charles W. Morgan served as a photographer in Loudoun County beginning as early as April of 1855 when he and Isabella Hipkins married in Leesburg. Their marriage record lists Morgan as a Daguerreotypist. Daguerreotypes, the precursor to ambrotypes, are positive photographic images created on silver-coated copper plates, usually stored in cases with a glass front to protect the image.¹

An edition of the *Washingtonian* from December 5, 1856 includes an advertisement for “Ambrotypes! Ambrotypes! Pictures Taken on Glass, at Morgan’s Southern Sky-Light Saloon.” Morgan’s advertisement describes the improved quality of ambrotypes over daguerreotypes including the ability to clean the images without damaging them, and a reduction in glare when viewing the image. Though Morgan’s ad focused on the ambrotype, he still produced daguerreotypes and crayon pictures “taken as usual at the lowest prices.” Morgan also advertised himself as a teacher who instructed students “thoroughly and on terms as moderate as they can be taught in the cities.” The advertisement lists his business as being across the street from the residence of John Janney, a structure that still stands on the north side of east Cornwall Street. The 1860 Census confirms this location as Charles W. Morgan, his wife Isabella, daughter Louisa, and a son Thomas, are listed in a household directly below John Janney’s listing.²

The 1860 Census labels Morgan as a Dagarian, still producing photographs in Leesburg. By the 1870 Census, Morgan lived in Washington D.C. as a Clerk in the Post Office Department. His wife, Isabella, is no longer listed, but his daughter Louisa, son Thomas, another son, 9 year old Wilmot, and a housekeeper are listed as a part of Morgan’s household. Wilmot is recorded to have been born in D.C. suggesting Charles W. Morgan and his family moved to Washington sometime between the 1860 Census and 1861, a move influenced perhaps by the onset of the Civil War.³

It is unclear exactly when Charles W. Morgan arrived in Loudoun County. There is no record of Morgan prior to his marriage, but at the very least he served Leesburg as a photographer from 1855 to 1860. Perhaps Morgan produced some of the old portraits of families in Loudoun. Perhaps some of these images still exist. Nevertheless, one notation in the Birth Register inspired research about a little known person who had an interesting role in local history.



*“Ambrotypes! Ambrotypes!
Ambrotypes! Pictures Taken
on Glass, at Morgan’s
Southern Sky-Light Saloon.”
Washingtonian December 5,
1856*

1 Loudoun County Birth Register 1853-1859, p.89; Loudoun County Marriage Records Vol. 1 1853-1865, p.11; “Popular Photographic Print Processes: Ambrotypes,” Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, last modified August 30, 2011, accessed March 7, 2016, https://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/589_ambrotype.html; “Popular Photographic Print Processes: Daguerreotypes,” Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, last modified August 30, 2011, accessed March 7, 2016, https://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/589_daguerre.html.

2 1860 U.S. Census, Loudoun County, Virginia, Schedule 1, Leesburg, p. 59, dwelling 455, family 459, Charles W. Morgan; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed March 7, 2016, <http://ancestry.com>.

3 1870 U.S. Census, Washington D.C., Schedule 1, District of Columbia, p. 209, dwelling 1426, family 1669, Charles W. Morgan; digital image, Ancestry.com, accessed March 7, 2016, <http://ancestry.com>.



In brewing and distilling, mashing is the process of combining a mix of milled grain (typically malted barley with supplementary grains such as corn, sorghum, rye or wheat), known as the "grain bill", and water, known as "liquor," and heating this mixture.

Lambert yelled to the four men *"Don't run, or I'll shoot."*

Prohibition Turns Deadly in Loudoun County

BY ERIC LARSON

Thursday, October 18, 1923, was a crisp fall day when Virginia Department of Prohibition Enforcement Officer, Jefferson D. Lambert, walked out the front door of his house in Leesburg for the last time. This was the day he and Loudoun deputy C.L. Umbaugh were going to search for one of the largest stills in Loudoun County.

Born on August 4, 1886 in Arcola, Virginia, Lambert spent most of his childhood and teen years in Alexandria, Virginia. In 1911, he moved to Leesburg and started a family and a successful motor company (Lambert Motor Company) and became a deputy sheriff for Loudoun county. At the age of 37, Lambert was appointed by Virginia's Attorney General to the position of Prohibition Enforcement Officer in January of 1923.

When Lambert met with deputy Umbaugh on the morning of October 18 in Leesburg, they finalized their plans to raid a still near Belmont Station in Broad Run. Information on the still was furnished to him a day before by a Leesburg citizen. The still reportedly belonged to Curtis Jenkins and Edward Ball who were well known Loudoun bootleggers. Lambert filed a warrant against Jenkins in May 1923 to search his house in Broad Run, but his search turned up nothing.

Ball and Jenkins did have a still well hidden from authorities in Broad Run. They both owned a one third interest in it and the other third was owned by Maurice Poole. A fourth person working with Jenkins and Ball was Clarence Costello, but his involvement in the still is a mystery. According to Poole, Ball was the production expert who trained him to run the still. Ball also supplied the materials, sugar and meal, and transported the finished rye whiskey. The still produced up to 28 gallons a day and sold for \$5 a gallon. Around 3 p.m., Lambert and Umbaugh left Leesburg and drove to within a mile of the Belmont general store and left their car parked in the woods. As Lambert left the car he placed the car key in his pocket. Without any information on the exact location of the still, the officers walked for almost an hour until they found quart jars and meal located along the creek. Following the creek, the officers worked through a thick growth of pines called "The Woods" until they were within a few feet of a compound that contained a "huge still."

Poole's court deposition, and a map made of the crime scene, described a large still located inside a semi-circle of barrels (the barrels were full of corn mash). Poole's account stated that he and two other men, Doc Johnson and Jackson Johnson, were shooting craps and Costello was serving as a lookout when Lambert approached them (Jenkins and Ball were not at the still that day).

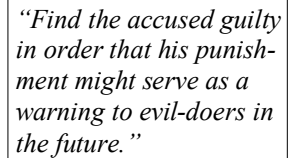
In Poole's statement to authorities, Lambert yelled to the four men *"Don't run, or I'll shoot."* Poole, and the two Johnsons jumped over the barrels and fled the site leaving Costello behind. Poole said he saw Lambert fire his gun in the air followed by two more shots. Deputy Umbaugh pursued Poole leaving Lambert back at the still, but when he heard further exchange of gun fire, he returned looking for Lambert. According to Umbaugh, he could not find Lambert and fearing "foul play" he decided to go back to Leesburg for assistance. He walked five miles back to town, since the car keys were still in Lambert's pocket.

After arriving back in Leesburg around 9:45pm, he informed Sheriff T. W. Edwards of the day's horrific events. Umbaugh assembled some deputies and Lambert family members, and returned to the site of the still where they found the body of Inspector Lambert. He was shot on the right hand side of his back by a .38 caliber revolver. One of the shots severed his gun belt which was found several feet from his body. The bullets were not removed from Lambert's body during the first autopsy. The court ordered Lambert's body exhumed and another autopsy performed by the former coroner of Washington, DC. By using X-rays, the coroner located the two slugs and removed them for evidence.

In Poole's October 23, 1923 court deposition, and according to newspaper accounts, Poole stated that he fled the site of the still and went to his brother's house outside Washington DC. Costello went to Poole's father's house looking for him. Poole's father reported that Costello confessed to shooting Lambert, but only in the arm. Costello left his suitcase and gun used to shot Lambert at Poole's father's house, and returned to his home in Aldie, Virginia where he was arrested the next day. Poole surrendered to authorities in Leesburg on Saturday October 20.

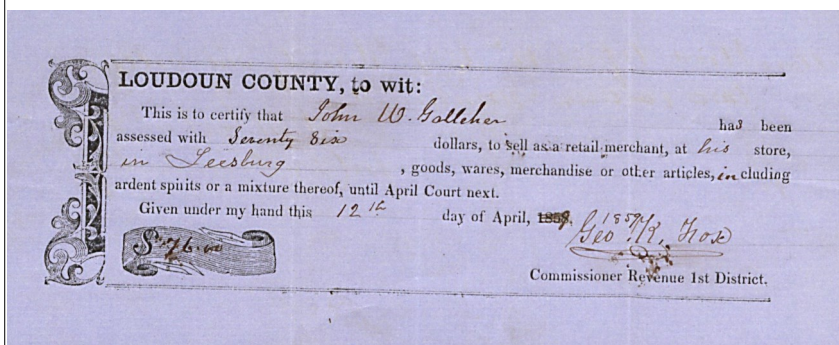
**Prohibition Enforcement Officer,
Jefferson D. Lambert**





Commonwealth vs. Clarence Costello and Maurice Poole, Clerk of the Circuit Criminal Papers
From Frontier to Suburbia: Loudoun County Virginia One of the America's Fastest Growing Counties,
 Charles Poland Jr. 2006
 Loudoun Time Mirror, October 25, 1923
 Loudoun Time Mirror, December 20, 1923
 Loudoun Time Mirror, December 27, 1923
 Officer Down Memorial Page, <http://www.odmp.org/officer/17131-inspector-jefferson-d-lambert-jr>

Spring, Summer And Fall Programs



John Galleher 1859 Liquor License

Home Brew-Sale and Production of Liquor in Loudoun

April 1, 2016 Spring Open House (First Friday) 6:00-8PM

This presentation will display court records of the legal and not so legal consumption and sale of alcohol in Loudoun County from 1757-1930s.

Mold, War and Grants: Preserving Loudoun's Historic Court Papers

June 3, 2016 Summer Open House (First Friday) 6:00-8PM

Learn how Loudoun's court papers have held up against time, history and environment. The staff will discuss and demonstrate how the records are being preserved in the 21st century.

Presentments, Sentencings and Punishments: Crime in Loudoun County 1757-1944

October 7, 2016 Fall Open House (First Friday) 6:00-8PM

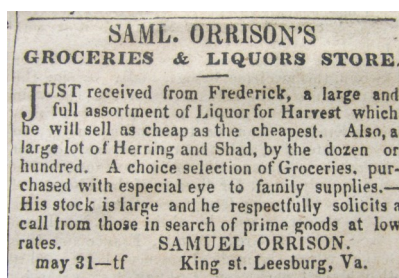
This exhibit will display and explain the sentencing and punishment of criminals using the court's historic criminal records.

More events and exhibits will be added throughout the year. Please check our website for more details.

All Open Houses will be held at:

Court Complex
18 E. Market St
Leesburg Virginia

Home Brew-Sale and Production of Liquor in Loudoun 1757-1933



Advertisement from the *Loudoun Democrat* May 31, 1854

The Clerk of the Circuit Court Historic Records Division will exhibit a variety of court documents that trace the evolution of the legal and illegal activities of liquor in Loudoun County from 1757-1930s. Throughout history liquor was considered a normal part of daily life. Because of the popularity and acceptance of drinking "spirits," very little was done to control the production and consumption of liquor in the colonies and then the United States. For most of Virginia's history (1607 to the early 20th century) the laws that regulated liquor consumption, production and transportation were the responsibility of the localities.

This exhibit will include early liquor licenses issued by the county court, criminal cases related to liquor violations, ordinary licenses, fees set by the court, tax records, liquor bonds and deeds. The exhibit will address the relationship between ordinaries and the sale of liquor. The display also explores the impact of the temperance anti-saloon movement on local regulations and prohibition. This includes the 1902 Prohibition and Evangelical Association of Loudoun charter filed in the circuit court. The exhibition concludes with court records from the prohibition period, and the murder of a Virginia Prohibition officer in Broad Run in 1923.

The exhibition will be on display in the court house on Friday April 1, 2015 6-8pm. Portions of the exhibit will be on display in the Historic Records Division after April 1 through June 30. The entire exhibit can be viewed online.

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Pictures from February 6, 2016 Black History Presentation and Exhibition on Leonard A. Grimes: Free Black Champion of Freedom

- Inventory of Archives
- In-house conservation Land Tax Books
- Birth Index 1853-1866
- Hosted Realtors from the Dulles Area Association of Realtors
- Formatted over 100,000 deed and will images for Clerks Land Record System
- Begin numbering the Road Case loose papers
- Clerk of the Circuit Court December 2015 Team of the Month
- 154 people attended 3 Black History Month presentations sponsored by the: Clerk of the Circuit Court, Oatlands, Waterford Foundation and Balch Library Black History Community
- We have continued to flat file and index our criminal records. View our year long project at our October Open House.

BY THE NUMBERS JANUARY-MARCH 2016

Visitors-1,130
Correspondence Requests-536
Phone calls-1,040
Archives Files Pulled-197
Total Copies-7,147
Volunteers Hours-164
Total Scans-4,380



54 guests attended Historic Records Black History Month Lecture on Leonard Grimes. The lecture was held in the 1894 court house.



Look for the summer issue of *Little Gems* which will feature in-house and contracted preservation programs in Historic Records.

Clerk of The Circuit Court Historic Records

Clerk of the Circuit Court
Attn: Historic Records
P.O. Box 550
Leesburg, VA 20178
703-737-8775
Email
Clerk-Archives@loudoun.gov



Land Records & Deed Research

Loudoun is one of only a few counties in the Commonwealth that has records dating from its formation in 1757 when it split from Fairfax County. The Historic Records and Deed Research division includes all historic court records 1757-1980s and land records from 1757-present. Research can be conducted by using both in-house and online databases and paper indexes. Our staff can provide guidance and suggestions to start your research but **cannot provide research services or legal advice**. To prepare for your visit please review our online links to indexes and county databases which provide a starting point in your records research.

If you Visit the Archives

There is a court order that establishes court security protocols that serves the best interests of all visitors to the various courts and court-related offices in the Courts Complex. Therefore, electronic mobile devices such as cellphones with cameras, laptop computers, and electronic tablets are currently not permitted in the Courts Complex. To assist the patrons of the Historic Records/Archives research room, the Clerk's Office provides computer workstations with internet access so our patrons can review the websites of other historic records museums and historic records research organizations to assist with research needs in the Clerk's Office.

Don't Forget to check our updated webpage!

Dozens of
Updated &
New Indexes

Helpful Links
&
Resources

What's New

Have a Question?